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Master of Science Degree Program in Speech and Language Pathology

Nova University

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Nova University

CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION

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MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM in SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Nova's Master of Science Degree Program with a major in Speech and Language Pathology was designed to meet the needs of persons in Southeast Florida who wish to obtain Florida licensure in Speech and Language Pathology and the Certificate of Clinical Competence awarded by the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association.

The Speech and Language Pathology major is offered only at the masters level. However, interested undergraduate students or persons with baccalaureate degrees in unrelated disciplines can obtain necessary background courses by enrolling in Nova College.

Admission Requirements

The M.S. Program in Speech and Language Pathology was developed to enable individuals to meet licensing and certification requirements. There are no prerequisites for entry into the Program. However, persons with appropriate preparation (a bachelor's in speech correction or speech pathology) will have fewer courses to complete to meet certification and licensure requirements. Individuals who have not completed a baccalaureate degree will be expected to give evidence of competency to complete demanding master's level coursework.

Persons eligible for admission to the Program are:

- 1) Individuals with a baccalaureate degree (in any major) from a regionally accredited college or university.
- 2) Individuals with 90 credit-hours of undergraduate coursework who have either:

A cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4 point scale).

A grade-point average of 3.0 or above for all coursework taken beyond the first 30 hours of coursework,
and,

have been recommended for admission after an interview with Program faculty.

Transfer of Credit

Thirty-nine credits of graduate work must be completed for the M.S. degree in Speech and Language Pathology. Transfer of graduate level credit up to a maximum of six semester hours from an accredited institution (with a grade of A or B) may be allowed upon approval of the Student Affairs Advisor. These credits must have been earned within the ten years prior to acceptance into the Program.

Note that transfer of graduate-level credit hours for the purpose of obtaining a master of science degree is a different process from the accumulation of a total of 60 credit hours, graduate and undergraduate, in an integrated program meeting course requirements for licensure and certification. Courses from several institutions may be listed on forms sent in for purposes of licensure or certification, and these courses need not be a part of the masters program completed at Nova University.

Program Overview

All students are expected to complete a minimum of 39 credit-hours in specific required masters level course work at Nova University. This basic 39 credit-hour program is designed so that it meets course requirements for state licensing and AS-LHA certification for persons holding Florida teacher certification in speech correction. Applicants with baccalaureate degrees in fields unrelated to speech and language pathology will need to take additional coursework at the graduate, and possibly at the undergraduate, level prior to and after entering the basic 39 credit-hour program. Undergraduate students at Nova College may apply for admission to the Program after completion of 90 credit-hours of undergraduate coursework. Undergraduate students from Nova College who apply and meet admission requirements will be accepted as special students in the 9 credit-hour "Basic Block." Admission to further coursework in the Program requires completion of the baccalaureate degree. The 39 credit-hour basic graduate program involves evening and Saturday classes offered over five cycles. Cycles begin in September, March, and July. Supervised clinical practicum experience is offered during the cycles and in January and February. Students enter the program in cohorts of 15 to 20, and are expected to follow the sequence listed for their cohort. Individual courses are not available. Typical Program sequences for three cohorts are illustrated below. The first two sequences are for March and September entry students who already have baccalaureate degrees in an appropriate major. The third sequence represents a typical program for undergraduate students who are permitted to begin initial coursework as special students.

Typical Sequences for Students Starting at the Graduate Level

	<u>Cohort A</u>	<u>Cohort B</u>
Spring Cycle	Basic Block 9 credits	
Summer Cycle	Clinical Block 8 credits	
Fall Cycle	Habilitative/Rehabilitative Block I 7 credits	Basic Block 9 credits
Spring Cycle	Habilitative/Rehabilitative Block II 7 credits	Habilitative/Rehabilitative Block II 7 credits
Summer Cycle	Audiology Block 8 credits	Clinical Block 8 credits
Fall Cycle		Habilitative/Rehabilitative Block I 7 credits
Spring Cycle		Audiology Block 8 credits

Typical Sequence for Students Starting at the Undergraduate Level (full-time)

Fall	Basic Block	9 credits	(taken at 400 level as a special student)
Spring	Completion of Undergraduate Requirements		
Summer	Clinical Block	8 credits	
Fall	Habilitative/Rehabilitative Block I (and additional clinical practicum hours)		7 credits
Spring	SLD II Module	9 credits	
	Habilitative/Rehabilitative Block II		7 credits
Summer	Audiology Block 8 credits		

Academic Expectations

Admission to Candidacy

Students majoring in Speech and Language Pathology become eligible for admission to candidacy for the Master of Science degree after:

- 1) Completion of their first 6 to 9 credit-hour block of graduate level work taken within the major. Courses taken in related areas may not be used for this purpose.
- 2) Completion of 25 hours of supervised clinical experience at Nova University.

Requirements for admission to candidacy are:

- 1) A 3.0 ("B") grade point average or higher in coursework taken within the major at Nova University.
- 2) A positive recommendation from Program faculty who have worked with the student in an instructional or supervisory capacity.
- 3) A rating of "Satisfactory" or better for the first 25 hours of supervised clinical experience at Nova University.

Program faculty will review the files of eligible students and recommend one of three actions to the CAE Candidacy Committee:

- a) unqualified acceptance;
- b) probationary status;
- c) termination from the Program.

After the Candidacy Committee has reviewed the students file and recommendations a formal letter is mailed to the student indicating his or her status.

Grading

Since students are expected to produce quality, graduate level work, a grade-point average of at least 3.0 (B) must be maintained for retention in the program. Incomplete grades must be made up within four months. Failure to do so within the four-month limit will result in a change of grade from I to F.

The evaluation system includes:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| A = Excellent achievement | D = Poor achievement |
| B = Good achievement | F = Failure |
| C = Below expectations for a graduate student | I = Incomplete |

Degree Completion Requirements

To graduate, a student must complete a minimum of 39 credit-hours of masters level course work and all necessary course work and clinical practicum requirements for eligibility for the Certificate of Clinical Competence offered through the American Speech-Language, and Hearing Association. Students who find that they will need more than the minimum 39 credit-hour basic program, may take up to a maximum of four years from the date of their first registration to complete degree requirements.

Students who are faced with a temporary personal or professional crisis and find that they cannot keep up with the sequence developed for their cohort may withdraw from the Program by notifying the Director of the Program by letter. Students who officially withdraw may petition the Director if they wish to re-enter the Program with another cohort, picking up their course of study at the point following the last block of courses for which they received a grade. Students may re-enter the Program only once and will be expected to follow all regulations applying to the new cohort that they join.

Registration

Students register through the Director of the M.S. Program in Speech and Language Pathology. Application forms and registration information will be provided by applying to the Director, M.S. Program in Speech and Language Pathology, at the Center for the Advancement of Education, Nova University, 3301 College Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314. Please note that transcripts of all of the applicant's previous course work, undergraduate and graduate, must be received by the Program Director at least one month prior to the student's registration for his/her first course taken in the Program. This step is important to ensure that the student has an accurate, individualized, outline of all course work that the student must take to be eligible for licensure and certification.

Student Costs

Costs include a \$25.00 one-time, nonrefundable application fee for students who have not previously applied to a Nova program. Tuition is \$120.00 per credit-hour for all work taken in the Program. Students who must take additional course work at the graduate or undergraduate level register for these additional courses at the tuition rate prevailing at the time in either Nova College or the Graduate Education Module (GEM) Program. Tuition and registration fees must be received at least one week before the first class session: otherwise, a \$20.00 late fee will be charged.

Tuition Refund Policy

Fees other than tuition are not refundable. Students who wish to receive a refund of tuition must notify, in writing, the Director of the Program of their reasons for withdrawal. Refunds will be based on the postmark date of written notification. Unless written notification of withdrawal is on file, students are assumed to be active participants and are responsible for tuition payments connected with their signed registration forms. In the case of a refund, the following schedule applies:

- * For 100% refund: withdrawal in writing prior to the first class session.
- * For a 75% refund: withdrawal in writing before the second class session, regardless of class attendance.
- * For a 50% refund: withdrawal in writing before the third class session, regardless of class attendance.
- * No refunds after the third class session, regardless of class attendance.

Grievance

When questions about procedures, decisions, or judgments occur, counseling is available for discussion and resolution of differences. Students may also have recourse to more formal avenues of appeal and redress. An appeals policy is available upon request from the Student Affairs Department.

Financial Aid

Information regarding financial aid and Veteran's benefits can be obtained by using the toll-free telephone within Florida, extension 7409, or writing to the Nova University Financial Aid Office.

MODULES

Basic Module

The Development of the Communicative Processes	3 credits
The Scientific Bases of Human Communication	3 credits
Communication Disorders	3 credits
	<u>9 credits</u>

Clinical Module

Differential Diagnosis	3 credits
Clinical Procedures	3 credits
Practicum I	2 credits
	<u>8 credits</u>

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures Module I

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Voice and Fluency Disorders	3 credits
Recent Research in Speech and Language Development	3 credits
Practicum II	1 credit (of 2)
	<u>7 credits</u>

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures Module II

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Language Disorders	3 credits
Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Speech Disorders	3 credits
Practicum II	1 credit (of 2)
	<u>7 credits</u>

Audiology Module

Fundamentals of Audiology	3 credits
Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures for the Hearing Impaired	3 credits
Practicum III	2 credits
	<u>8 credits</u>

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Basic Communicative Processes

Development of the Communicative Processes. Anatomic and physiological bases for the normal development and use of speech, language, and hearing, including the anatomy, neurology, and physiology of speech, language, and hearing mechanisms. 3 credit hours.

The Scientific Bases of Human Communication. Physical bases and processes of the production and perception of speech, language, and hearing. 3 credit hours.

Recent Research in Speech and Language Development. Study of normally developing language in infants and young children. Observational techniques, phonetic transcription, and analysis of vocal output. 3 credit hours.

Major Professional Area

Communication Disorders: An overview of hearing, language, and speech disorders, their manifestations, classifications, and causes. Screening and referral procedures for speech pathologists, classroom teachers, special educators, school and public health nurses and administrators. 3 credit hours.

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Voice and Fluency Disorders of Children and Adults. Etiological factors, procedures for diagnosis, remediation, and interdisciplinary management. 3 credit hours.

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Language Disorders of Children and Adults. Therapeutic clinical procedures for an array of pathological conditions of language affecting children and adults, including developmental and acquired problems. 3 credit hours.

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Speech Disorders of Children and Adults. Procedures for remediation of articulation disorders, such as dyspraxia, cleft palate, and dysarthria. Alternative communication systems. 3 credit hours.

Clinical Procedures. Service delivery systems and settings, including diagnostic and therapeutic practices in the public schools, in private practice, in medical settings and public agencies. Total case management including referrals, reporting, case follow-up, counseling and interagency coordination. 3 credit hours.

Differential Diagnosis. Diagnosis and management of complex communicative disorders including test interpretation and relationships between subtests in order to make a differential diagnosis. 3 credit hours.

Practicum I. Supervised, direct clinical experience with children and adults. Procedures for evaluation, test interpretation, remediation, reporting and family counseling. 2 credit hours.

Practicum II. Supervised, direct clinical experience with children and adults. Procedures for test interpretation and remediation. 2 credit hours.

Minor Professional Area

Fundamentals of Audiology: Introduction to hearing testing, test interpretation and implications for client management. 3 credit hours.

Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures for the Hearing Impaired. Remediation of communication problems resulting from hearing impairment. Use of amplification and assistive devices. 3 credit hours.

Practicum III. Supervised, direct clinical experience with children and adults with hearing impairment. Remedial procedures, use of amplification and speech reading. 2 credit hours.

Related Areas (Optional)

EP 556 Educational Assessment for Exceptional Children. This course familiarizes the student with techniques and instruments for measuring exceptionality in children including learning disabilities, emotional disabilities, and mental retardation. 3 credit hours

EC 580 Speech and Language Development. This course provides the student with a basic understanding of the nature of speech and language; developmental progression in language acquisition; problems associated with dialectical and cultural differences, bilingualism, or cerebral dysfunction; and techniques for evaluating language development and remediation programs. 3 credit hours.

CU 665 Theories of Learning and Effective Teaching. This course examines both modern and traditional learning theories and their relationship to effective teaching behavior. Also included are new brain-based learning concepts such as lateralization of function. An effort is made to evaluate the implications and significance of learning research for the classroom teacher. 3 credit hours.